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EXAMINER

SANTIAGO CORDERO, MARIVELISSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,864

Applicant(s)

EATON ET AL.

Examiner

Marivelisse Santiago-Cordero

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/1/06 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, filed on 12/1/06, with respect to the DuMont reference (Patent No.: 5,331,760), have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 1, 16, and 25, Applicant argues that DuMont does not teach or suggest a mobile device having any type of port with an opening, much less a combined attachment and acoustic port (Remarks: page 8, last paragraph). In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. At the outset, the claims require a combined (or combination) attachment and acoustic port comprising an opening, i.e., the opening is in the combination, not in the acoustic port by itself, as Applicant intends to argue. As stated in the last Office Action, DuMont discloses a mobile device (Figs. 1-2, reference 10; Fig. 5, reference 50) comprising a combined attachment (Figs. 1-2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75) and acoustic port (Figs. 1-2 and 5; note the lower portion of the housing below the speaker where the sound signals pass through) comprising an opening (Fig. 2; note the opening in the center of 19; Fig. 5; note the opening in between 73 and 75). Should the Applicant insist that the acoustic port by itself is the one comprising the

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opening, and not the combined attachment and acoustic port, as now claimed, the Examiner respectfully suggests clarifying the claims to specifically recite such features.

Further, Applicant argues that DuMont fails to teach a support bar that is disposed in the claimed port (Remarks: page 10, 1st full paragraph). In response, the claim requires a support bar disposed in the combined attachment and acoustic port. DuMont clearly shows a support bar disposed in the combined attachment and acoustic port (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75; col. 2, lines 56-60) as claimed.

Furthermore, Applicant argues that DuMont's attachment member does not span across a recessed acoustic port as required by claim 14, or span across the opening as required by claims 1 and 16. In response, regarding claim 14, the Examiner notes that DuMont was not used in the rejection of this claim. Regarding claims 1 and 16, DuMont clearly shows attachment member spanning across the opening (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19, 73-75).

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 12, 16-18, 20, and 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DuMont (Patent No.: 5,331,760).

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Regarding claim 1, DuMont discloses a mobile device (Figs. 1-2, reference 10; Fig. 5, reference 50) comprising;

a housing (Figs. 2 and 5, references 15, 17);

a speaker disposed within the housing for projecting audible signals from the mobile device (Fig. 2 and 5, reference 22, 54); and

a combined attachment (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75) and acoustic port (Fig. 1; note the sound signals passing through; Figs. 2 and 5; note the lower portion of the housing below the speaker) comprising an opening (Fig. 2; note the opening in the center of 19; Fig. 5; note the opening in between 73 and 75) disposed on the housing (Figs. 2 and 5), and an attachment member (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19, 73-75) spanning the opening (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19, 73-75) for attaching an external strap to the mobile device (Fig. 5, note the fishing line), the combined attachment and acoustic port configured to project audible sound from the speaker (Fig. 1; note the sound signals).

Regarding claim 2, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 1 wherein the attachment member comprises a support bar disposed in the combined attachment and acoustic port (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75).

Regarding claim 3, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 2 wherein the support bar comprises a rigid material spanning the combined attachment and acoustic port (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75; col. 2, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 4, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 2 wherein the support bar is spaced from the housing to enable a portion of the external strap to extend between the support bar and the housing (Fig. 5).

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Regarding claim 6, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 1 further comprising an acoustic channel disposed within the mobile device between the speaker and the combined attachment and acoustic port to acoustically connect the speaker to the combined attachment and acoustic port (Figs. 1-2, and 5).

Regarding claim 8, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 1 wherein the speaker projects notification signals via the combined attachment and acoustic port (col. 3, lines 4-19).

Regarding claim 12, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 1 wherein the combined attachment and acoustic port is disposed on an outer edge of the housing (Figs. 2 and 5).

Regarding claim 16, DuMont discloses a mobile device comprising:

a housing (Figs. 2 and 5, references 15, 17);

a combination attachment (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75) and acoustic port (Fig. 1; note the sound signals passing through it; Figs. 2 and 5; note the lower portion of the housing below the speaker) comprising an opening ((Fig. 2; note the opening in the center of 19; Fig. 5; note the opening in between 73 and 75) formed at least partially in the housing (Figs. 2 and 5), the combination attachment and acoustic port including a surrounding wall structure (Fig. 5) and at least one attaching bar extending across the opening (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75) for connecting to an external strap (Fig. 5; note the fish line),

wherein the attaching bar is spaced with respect to the port such that an open area around the attaching bar is of a sufficient size to allow the external strap to be attached around the attaching bar (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75); and

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a speaker (Figs. 2 and 5, reference 22, 54) positioned within the mobile device with respect to the combination attachment and acoustic port for directing sound through the combination attachment and acoustic port and out of the mobile device (Fig. 1; Figs. 2 and 5).

Regarding claim 17, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 16 wherein the attaching bar comprises a rigid material (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75; col. 2, lines 56-60).

Regarding claim 18, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 16 further comprising an acoustic channel disposed within the mobile device between the speaker and the combined attachment and acoustic port to direct sound through the combination attachment and acoustic port and out of the mobile device (Figs. 1-2, and 5).

Regarding claim 20, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 16 wherein the speaker projects notification signals out the mobile device via the combined attachment and acoustic port (Fig. 1; col. 3, lines 4-19).

Regarding claim 24, DuMont discloses a mobile device of claim 16 wherein the combined attachment and acoustic port is disposed on an outer edge of the housing (Figs. 2 and 5).

Regarding claim 25, DuMont discloses a mobile device comprising: a housing (Figs. 2 and 5, references 15, 17); and a combination port (Figs. 1-2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75; note the lower portion of the housing below the speaker where the sound signals pass through) comprising an opening (Fig. 2; note the opening in the center of 19; Fig. 5; note the opening in between 73 and 75) disposed at least partially in the housing (Figs. 2 and 5), said combination port comprising: projecting means for projecting audible mobile device (Fig. 1); and attaching

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means (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75) for attaching an external strap signals from the to the mobile device (Fig. 5; note the fish line).

Regarding claim 26, DuMont discloses the mobile device of claim 25 wherein the attaching means for attaching the external strap comprises an attachment member disposed in the combination port (Figs. 2 and 5, references 19 and 73-75).

Regarding claim 27, DuMont discloses the mobile device of claim 26 wherein the attachment member is spaced with respect to the combination port such that an open area defined between the attachment member and the combination port is of a sufficient size to attach the external strap to the attachment member (Figs. 2 and 5).

Regarding claim 28, DuMont discloses the mobile device of claim 25 further comprising channeling means for channeling the audible signals from a speaker disposed within the housing to the combination port (Figs. 1-2, and 5; note that the shape of the mobile device channels the audible signals from the speaker as shown in Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-22, and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altilio (Patent No.: 5,898,363) in view of Naruki (Patent No.: 4,450,495).

Regarding claim 1, Altilio discloses a mobile device (Fig. 1) comprising:

a housing (Fig. 1, reference 10);

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a speaker disposed within the housing for projecting audible signals from the mobile device (Fig. 2, reference 22; col. 5, lines 22-26); and

a combined attachment and acoustic port (Fig. 1, references 12b and 35) comprising an opening (Fig. 1, reference 12b; col. 5, lines 22-26) disposed on the housing (Fig. 1) and an attachment member spanning the opening (Fig. 1, reference 35), the combined attachment and acoustic port configured to project audible sound from the speaker (Figs. 1-2; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Altilio fails to specifically disclose the attachment member for attaching an external strap to the mobile device.

However, Naruki discloses an attachment member (Fig. 6, reference 67) for attaching an external strap (Fig. 6, reference 68) to the mobile device (Fig. 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to modify the attachment member of Altilio for attaching an external strap to the mobile device as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37).

Regarding claim 2, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the attachment member comprises a support bar disposed in the combined attachment and acoustic port (Fig. 1, reference 35).

Regarding claim 3, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the support bar comprises a rigid material spanning the combined attachment and acoustic port (Fig. 1, reference 35; col. 5, lines 32-34).

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Regarding claim 4, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the support bar is spaced from the housing (Fig. 1; col. 5, lines 32-34). Further, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the support bar (Fig. 6, reference 67) is spaced from the housing (Fig. 6, reference 60) to enable a portion of the external strap (Fig. 6, reference 68) to extend between the support bar and the housing (Fig. 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to enable a portion of the external strap to extend between the support bar and the housing of Altilio as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37) and convenience.

Regarding claim 6, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising an acoustic channel disposed within the mobile device between the speaker and the combined attachment and acoustic port to acoustically connect the speaker to the combined attachment and acoustic port (Figs. 1-2; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Regarding claim 7, in the obvious combination, Altilio fails to specifically disclose wherein the speaker projects high-level voice audio via the combined attachment and acoustic port. However, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the speaker projects high-level voice audio via the combined attachment and acoustic port (col. 1, lines 7-12, 39-42; col. 5, lines 37-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to project high-level voice audio via the combined attachment and acoustic port of Altilio as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of convenience and increasing functionality.

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Regarding claim 8, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the speaker projects notification signals via the combined attachment and acoustic port (col. 4, lines 46-52).

Regarding claim 9, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 4, lines 46-47). In addition, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 1, lines 7-12).

Regarding claim 10, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising a communication circuit disposed within the housing for transmitting and receiving signals (Fig. 2; note the antenna 31).

Regarding claim 12, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the combined attachment and acoustic port is disposed on an outer edge of the housing (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 13, Altilio discloses a method of outputting audible signals from a mobile device (Fig. 1) comprising a housing (Fig. 1, reference 10) and a speaker for projecting the audible signals disposed within the housing (Fig. 2, reference 22; col. 5, lines 22-26), the method comprising:

providing a recessed acoustic port (Fig. 1, reference 12b) on at least a portion of the housing (Fig. 1) to project acoustic sound from the mobile device (col. 5, lines 22-26), said acoustic port comprising an opening disposed in at least a portion of the housing (Fig. 1); and

placing an attachment member in the acoustic port (Fig. 1, reference 35).

Altilio fails to specifically disclose the attachment member for attaching an external strap to the mobile device.

However, Naruki discloses an attachment member (Fig. 6, reference 67) for attaching an external strap (Fig. 6, reference 68) to the mobile device (Fig. 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to modify the attachment member of Altilio for attaching an external strap to the mobile device as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37).

Regarding claim 14, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein placing the attachment member in the acoustic port comprises spanning the attachment member across the recessed acoustic port (Fig. 1) and spaced with respect to the recessed acoustic port a sufficient amount to enable a portion of the external strap to attach to the attachment member (Fig. 1; note the obvious combination with Naruki discloses enabling a portion of the external strap to attach to the attachment member).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to enable a portion of the external strap to attach to the attachment member of Altilio as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37) and convenience.

Regarding claim 15, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising providing an acoustic channel within the mobile device between the speaker and the combined attachment and acoustic port to direct the audible signals from the speaker to the acoustic port (Figs. 1-2; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Regarding claim 16, Altilio discloses a mobile device (Fig. 1) comprising:

a housing (Fig. 1, reference 10);

a combination attachment and acoustic port (Fig. 1, references 12b and 35) comprising an opening (Fig. 1, reference 12b; col. 5, lines 22-26) formed at least partially in the housing (Fig. 1), the combination attachment and acoustic port including a surrounding wall structure (Fig. 1) and at least one attaching bar extending across the opening (Fig. 1, reference 35) for connecting to an external strap, wherein the attaching bar is spaced with respect to the port such that an open area around the attaching bar is of a sufficient size (Fig. 1, reference 35) to allow the external strap to be attached around the attaching bar; and

a speaker (Fig. 2, reference 22) positioned within the mobile device with respect to the combination attachment and acoustic port for directing sound through the combination attachment and acoustic port and out of the mobile device (Fig. 2, reference 22; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Altilio fails to specifically disclose the attaching bar for connecting to an external strap and allowing the external strap to be attached around the attaching bar.

However, Naruki discloses an attachment bar (Fig. 6, reference 67) for connecting to an external strap (Fig. 6, reference 68) and allowing the external strap to be attached around the attaching bar (Fig. 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to modify the attachment bar of Altilio for connecting to an external strap and allowing the external strap to be attached around the attaching bar as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37).

Regarding claim 17, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the attaching bar comprises a rigid material (Fig. 1, reference 35; col. 5, lines 32-34).

Regarding claim 18, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising an acoustic channel disposed within the mobile device between the speaker and the combined attachment and acoustic port to direct sound through the combined attachment and acoustic port and out of the mobile device (Figs. 1-2; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Regarding claim 19, in the obvious combination, Altilio fails to specifically disclose wherein the speaker directs high-level voice audio out of the mobile device via the combined attachment and acoustic port. However, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the speaker directs high-level voice audio out of the mobile device via the combined attachment and acoustic port (col. 1, lines 7-12, 39-42; col. 5, lines 37-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to project high-level voice audio via the combined attachment and acoustic port of Altilio as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of convenience and increasing functionality.

Regarding claim 20, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the speaker projects notification signals out of the mobile device via the combined attachment and acoustic port (col. 4, lines 46-52).

Regarding claim 21, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 4, lines 46-47). In addition, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a

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portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 1, lines 7-12).

Regarding claim 22, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising a communication circuit disposed within the housing for transmitting and receiving signals (Fig. 2; note the antenna 31).

Regarding claim 24, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the combined attachment and acoustic port is disposed on an outer edge of the housing (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 25, Altilio discloses a mobile device (Fig. 1) comprising:

a housing (Fig. 1, reference 10); and

a combination port (Fig. 1, references 12b and 35) comprising an opening (Fig. 1, reference 12b; col. 5, lines 22-26) disposed at least partially in the housing (Fig. 1), said combination port comprising:

projecting means for projecting audible signals from the mobile device (Fig. 1; col. 5, lines 22-26); and

attaching means (Fig. 1, reference 35).

Altilio fails to specifically disclose the attaching means for attaching an external strap to the mobile device.

However, Naruki discloses an attachment means (Fig. 6, reference 67) for attaching an external strap (Fig. 6, reference 68) to the mobile device (Fig. 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to modify the attachment means of Altilio for attaching an external strap

to the mobile device as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of carrying the device without using the hands (Naruki: col. 6, lines 36-37).

Regarding claim 26, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the attaching means for attaching the external strap comprises an attachment member disposed in the combination port (Fig. 1, reference 35).

Regarding claim 27, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the attachment member is spaced with respect to the combination port (Fig. 1) such that an open are defined between the attachment member and the combination port is of a sufficient size to attach the external strap to the attachment member (Fig. 1; note the obvious combination with Naruki discloses to attach the external strap to the attachment member).

Regarding claim 28, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further comprising channeling means for channeling the audible signals from a speaker disposed within the housing to the combination port (Fig. 2; col. 5, lines 22-26).

Regarding claim 29, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 4, lines 46-47). In addition, in the obvious combination, Naruki discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a portable radio, a portable cassette player, a portable CD player, a portable mini-disc player, and a portable MP3 player (col. 1, lines 7-12).

Regarding claim 30, in the obvious combination, Altilio discloses further transmitting means for transmitting and receiving signals (Fig. 2; note the antenna 31).

8. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altilio in combination with Naruki as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Munoz (Patent No.: 5,887,776).

Regarding claim 5, Altilio in combination with Naruki disclose the mobile device of claim 4 (see above), wherein the support bar is spaced from the housing (Altilio: Fig. 1; Naruki: Fig. 6) but fail to specifically disclose to enable a spring clip disposed on one end of the external strap to extend between the support bar and the housing.

However, Munoz discloses wherein the support bar (Figs. 2-3, reference 10) is spaced from the housing (Figs. 2-3, reference 14) to enable a spring clip (Figs. 2-3) disposed on one end of the external strap (Figs. 2-3, reference 30) to extend between the support bar and the housing (Figs. 2-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to dispose, on one end of the external strap, and enable a spring clip to extend between the support bar and the housing of Altilio in combination with Naruki as suggested by Munoz for the advantages of detaching the strap (Munoz: col. 3, lines 31-34) whenever needed, increasing convenience, is inexpensive, simpler, and easier to operate.

9. Claims 11, 23, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altilio in combination with Naruki as applied to claims 10, 22, and 30 above, respectively, and further in view of Iwai et al. (hereinafter "Iwai"; Pub No.: 20050075082).

Regarding claims 11, 23, and 31, Altilio in combination with Naruki disclose the mobile devices of claims 10, 22, and 30, respectively, but fail to disclose wherein the mobile device

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comprises at least one of a cellular telephone, a personal data assistant, a pager, and a personal communications system.

Note, however, that Altilio discloses a radio antenna and a radio receiver (Fig. 2) and that Naruki relates to portable acoustic devices having radio receivers (col. 3, lines 30-31).

Nonetheless, Iwai discloses wherein the mobile device comprises at least one of a cellular telephone, a personal data assistant, a pager, and a personal communications system (page 1, paragraph [0002]). Note that all of the references cited teach an attachment member in a mobile radio communication device.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention by applicant to modify the mobile device of Altilio in combination with Naruki to comprise at least one of a cellular telephone, a personal data assistant, a pager, and a personal communications system as suggested by Naruki for the advantages of making it easily adoptable for today's generation of mobile users, increases functionality, is more convenient, and user friendlier.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marivelisse Santiago-Cordero whose telephone number is (571) 272-7839. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on (571) 272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MSC 1/23/07

MSC



WILLIAM TROST
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600